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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,995	08/03/2004	Thomas Wenger	F-8318	1856

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NEW YORK, NY 10168

EXAMINER

DAVIS, CASSANDRA HOPE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3611

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/500,995

Applicant(s)

WENGER, THOMAS

Examiner

Cassandra Davis

Art Unit

3611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The use of the trademark VELCRO (hook and loop fastener) has been noted in this application. (See page 2, line 21) It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the

claimed invention. It is unclear how the scorecard can be inspected from the outside when it is disposed between the outer and inner wall of the sleeve. The applicant does not disclose structure to perform this function. For example the applicant does not disclose the sleeve being transparent or comprising apertures/opening to inspect the scorecard.

4: The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C.

112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 5, the phrase "the thereby divided inner wall halves" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 3, the use of the trademark VELCRO in the claim is indefinite, since the formula or characteristics of the product may change from time to time and yet it may continue to be sold under the same trademark. The examiner suggests using "hook and loop fasteners".

In claim 3, line 2, the phrase "the edge region" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sy, Jr., U. S. Patent 5,131,177. Sy teaches a transparent display device first panel hinged to a second panel, wherein the device is adapted to receive a display panel 100. One of the panels defines a recess portion between snap channels 65 and 65 for receiving the display panel.

See figure 9.

8. With respect to claim 2, the snap channels to provide a means for securing the device in a closed position.

9. With respect to claim 4, the snap channels correspond to the claimed connecting tab.

10. With respect to claim 7, Sy teaches slots formed on the sides of the first and second panels when in a closed position. See figure 9.

11. Claims 1, 2, and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Manor, U. S. Patent 4,388,770. Manor teaches a transparent pouch 80 having a first panel hinged to a second panel at line A, wherein the pouch is adapted to receive a display panel 62. The panels define a recess portion between Velcro fasteners surrounding the three edges thereof for receiving the display panel. See figure 3.

12. Claims 1, 2, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bromberg, U. S. Patent 4,233,768.

13. Bromberg teaches a display device first panel 24 hinged to a second panel 34, wherein the device is adapted to receive a folded display panel 16/72. Folded segment 44 defines a recess portion between folded segment and the fold line 205 for receiving the display panel. See figures 4-5. The sleeve has a plurality of opening 26 and 28 to view the display panel 16/72.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

14. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Manor. Since the applicant does not disclose that a leather sleeve solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose, it appears that a sleeve made of any suitable material would perform equally well in protecting the display panel/card.


16. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bromberg.

17. With respect to claim 6, since the applicant does not disclose that a leather sleeve solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose, it appears that a sleeve made of any suitable material would perform equally well in protecting the display panel/card.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cassandra Davis whose telephone number is 571-272-6642. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lesley Morris can be reached on 571-272-6651. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Cassandra Davis
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3611

CD
September 17, 2005